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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1357

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST 528

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

CINCPAC

CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 SAIGON 8065

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAM CEASEFIRE SITUATION REPORT, MAY 8, 1973

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

THIS REPORT SUMMARIZES ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO
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THE EMBASSY AS OF 1800 MAY 8.

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

PART I ICCS: SECRETARIAT PREPARATIONS OF VERBATIM MINUTES

SPEEDS UP WORK OF PLENARY; CANDEL/ INDODEL REJECT
PRG OFFER OF COMPROMISE ON AIR CORRIDOR WIDTH;
ICCS AGREES TO PRG REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION IN PHU
YEN; CANDEL RECORDS NOTE REFUTING DRV ALLEGATIONS
OF US/ GVN VIOLATIONS.

PART II TPJMC: FOUR DETAINEES OF 200 RELEASED AT QUANG
TRI ON MAY 7 REFUSE TO GO.

PART III FPJMT/ MIA: DRV FORMALLY ANNOUNCES FPJMT
VISIT TO NVN; CRASH SITE INSPECTION IS LONG AN FRUITLESS.

PART IV CEASE- FIRE VIOLATION: COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS NOW AT 13,286.

PART V CAMBODIAN WAR: FONMIN LAM SAY GVN INTERVENTION
IN CAMBODIA POSSIBLE IF COMMUNIST AGGRESSION CONTINUES.

PART VI MR 1: COMMUNIST BUILD- UP IN WESTERN MOUNTAINS
CONTINUES AS FIGHTING REMAINS LOW; ICCS CHU LAI
TEAM UNABLE TO SUPERVISE SCHEDULED CIVILIAN
PRISONER RELEASE IN QUANG NGAI ON MAY 2 CAUSING
CANCELLATION.

PART VII MR 2: FIGHTING IN QUANG DUC; ICCS WITHDRAWAL FROM
DUC CO COMPLETED; SCHEDULED CIVILIAN PRISONER
RELEASES HELD UP.

PART VIII MR 3: INCIDENTS REMAIN LOW; ABF' S ON TONG LE
CHAN CONTINUE.

PART IX MR 4: RF STRIKES BACK AT VC FORCES IN BA XUYEN;
AIR AMERICA PORTER FIRED UPON; POLDEL/ HUNGDEL
" INDEPENDENT OBSERVATION" INFURIATES CANDEL/ INDODEL.

PART I: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONTROL AND SUPERVISION (ICCS)

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1. AS OF MAY 4 PLENARY, THE ICCS SECRETARIAT STAFF CAN NOW
PREPARE VERBATIM MINUTES TO BE CIRCULATED AMONG CHIP DELS
WITHIN 48 HOURS. IF NO OBJECTIONS OR ADDITIONS ARE RECEIVED
WITHIN 96 HOURS, THE MINUTES STAND APPROVED. ANY OBJECTIONS ARE
TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FOLLOWING PLENARY. ICCS CHAIRMAN' S
DELEGATION CONTINUES TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A BRIEF RECORD OF
DECISION WHICH IS APPROVED AT THE START OF EACH PLENARY. AT

PREVIOUS SESSIONS, IN ABSENCE OF VERBATIM MINUTES, THE RECORDS OF DECISION BECAME INCREASINGLY LENGTHY INVOLVING CONSIDERABLE CONTROVERSY AND DISCUSSION BEFORE BEING PASSED. THE PROCESS IS NOW MOVING AT A FASTER PACE.

2. POLDEL GEN. RYBA'S PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING ICCS WITHDRAWAL FROM DUC CO WAS THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS AT MAY 7 PLENARY. THERE WAS FURTHER DISCUSSION OF PRG'S LETTER ON THE SUBJECT (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN SAIGON 7962). ACCORDING TO LETTER, PRGT

REGRET

TED TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL " BECAUSE OF WEATHER AND CLIMATIC CONDITIONS" AND PROMISED TO IMPORVE LIVING CONDITIONS AT DUC CO WHICH PROMPTED CANDEL COMMENT WHETHER PRG COULD CONTROL THE WEATHER. HUNGDEL THEN MADE STATEMENT FOR RECORD THAT DUC CO WITHDRAWAL WAS MADE ON MEDICAL GROUNDS ONLY. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF FURTHER ICCS WITHDRAWALS FROM BEN HET OR AN LOC.

3. THERE FOLLOWED A REPORT ON POLDEL DISCUSSIONS IN BEHALF OF ICCS WITH PRG CONCERNING WIDTH OF AIR CORRIDORS AND ICCS PRESENCE AT PRISONER RELEASE SITES. POLDEL STATED THAT PRG WOULD AGREE TO COMPROMISE OF 6 KM WIDE AIR CORRIDORS. AS PREDICTED, INDO / CANDEL REFUSED COMPROMISE. POLDEL FURTHER REPORTED THAT PRG REPS HAD SAID THAT ICCS INABILITY TO SUPERVISE PRISONER EXCHANGES WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT MEETING OF TPJMC. IT WAS AGREEDRLHAT ICCS WOULD WRITE A LETTER TO TPJMC INFORMING THAT BODY OF THE FRUITLESS DISCUSSIONS WITH PRG ON WIDTH OF AIR CORRIDORS AND STATING THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER. CANDEL WANTED TO PREPARE LETTER CCONDEMNING THE PRG FOR FAILURE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE AIR CORRIDORS, BUT THIS WAS A NON- STARTER AMONG POLDEL/ HUNGDEL REPS.

4. SEVEN MORE INVESTIGATION REPORTS WERE ROUTINELY HANDLED, FOUR FROM REGION VII, TWO FROM REGION IV, ONE FROM REGION II. ONE
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REPORT UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE ICCS TEAM COULD NOT CONCLUDE A CEASEFIRE VIOLATION HAD OCCURRED. IN THE REMAINING SIX REPORTS, CANDEL/ INDODEL FOUND PRG GUILTY OF TRUCE VIOLATION WITH DIFFERING VIEWS OF HUNGDEL/ POLDEL DENYING EVIDENCE, REFUTTING CANDEL/ INDODEL CLAIMS OR IN ONE CASE HUNGDEL CONCLUDING THAT GVN FORCES HA
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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

PART II: TPJMC

1. CHIEFS MET TODAY IN A GENERALLY UNPRODUCTIVE SESSION. BOTH SIDES REITERATED PREVIOUS POSITIONS ON CONTACTS BETWEEN UNIT COMMANDERS, POWS AND CIVILIAN DETAINEES. GVN DEL HAS SENT A LET-
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TER TO THE ICCS CONTAINING A PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR ICCS PARTICIPATION IN CIVILIAN DETAINEE RELEASES SLATED FOR THIS WEEKEND IN PRG-CONTROLLED TERRITORY. ACCORDING TO GVN DEL SOURCE, GVN WILL NOT RPT NOT GO AHEAD WITH RECEPTION OF RELEASES IN PRG TERRITORY WITHOUT ICCS PARTICIPATION.

2. 200 GVN- HELD CIVILIAN DETAINEES WERE TO BE RELEASED THIS AFTERNOON AT THACH HAN RIVER SITE. ACCORDING TO REPORT RECEIVED TODAY, 196 CIVILIANS WERE RETURNED IN YESTERDAY'S RELEASE, WITH FOUR

DETAINEES REFUSING RETURN AND ELECTING HOI CHANH STATUS.

PART III FPJMT/ MIA

1. AT MAY 8 SESSION, DRV DELEGATION FORMALLY ANNOUNCED THAT VISIT OF FPJMT ELEMENT TO GRAVES OF US DIC IN NVN WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 11. PERIOD OF VISIT TO GRAVES WILL LAST FIVE HOURS. EACH FPJMT DELEGATION WILL BE LIMITED TO FIVE DELEGATES. (US DEL IS ATTEMPTING TO SECURE DRV PERMISSION TO SEND A TOTAL OF 8 DELEGATES.) DRV DELEGATION STRESSED THAT LOCAL OFFICIALS WOULD PROVIDE ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION REGARDING DIC' S.

2. NEITHER DRV OR PRG DELEGATION RAISED MATTER OF MAY 7-8 CRASH SITE INVESTIGATION IN LONG AN PROVINCE. THE INVESTIGATION WAS COMPLETED LATE AFTERNOON MAY 8. ALTHOUGH SOME PERSONAL POSSESSIONS WERE FOUND, NO REMAINS WERE LOCATED. THE ONLY INCIDENT WHICH MARKED THE CRASH SITE INVESTIGATION WAS A BOOBY TRAP EXPLOSION WHICH KILLED ONE AND SERIOUSLY WOUNDED ANOTHER PF SOLDIER DURING SWEEP OF CRASH SITE AREA ON SATURDAY.

3. DRV DEL REQUESTED THAT NEXT MEETING BE POSTPONED UNTIL SATURDAY, MAY 12, AS THEY WOULD BE TOO BUSY MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANOI VISIT TO MEET ON THURSDAY, MAY 10.

4. US DEL SENT LIST OF 1444 US AND THIRD COUNTRY MIA' S TO DRV AND PRG DELEGATIONS ON AFTERNOON OF MAY 8 REQUESTING INFORMATION ON CURRENT STATUS.

PART IV: CEASE- FIRE VIOLATIONS

THE OFFICIAL VIETNAM PRESS LIST OF COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS FROM THE DATE OF THE CEASE- FIRE TO 0600 MAY 8 REACHED 13,286. THESE VIOLATIONS RESULTED IN 19,095 COMMUNIST TROOPS KILLED AND 212 CAPTURED, WHILE RVNAF CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 4,712 KILLED, 23,105 WOUNDED AND 1,231 MISSING. IN ADDITION, 770 CIVILIANS WERE KILLED, 2,169 WOUNDED AND 1,146 ABDUCTED.

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PART V: CAMBODIAN WAR

FOREIGN MINISTER LAM SPEAKS ON CAMBODIAN FIGHTING

THE LOCAL PRESS HAS GIVEN FULL COVERAGE TO AN INTERVIEW BY FOREIGN MINISTER LAM WITH AN ITALIAN CORRESPONDENT ON MAY 3 IN WHICH HE SAID THE GVN WOULD CONSIDER INTERVENING IN CAMBODIA IF THE SITUATION IN THAT COUNTRY BECAME WORSE AS A RESULT OF CONTINUED COMMUNIST AGGRESSION. LAM SAID THAT A DEADLINE OF 15 DAYS AFTER SIGNATURE OF PARIS AGREEMENT (JANUARY 27) HAD BEEN TACITLY AGREED UPON FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM CAMBODIA AND THAT THIS HAD BEEN DISREGARDED BY THE DRV. GVN FORCES HAVE NOT YET BEEN

AUTHORIZED TO CROSS THE BORDER INTO CAMBODIA, A DECISION WHICH WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM PRESIDENT THIEU, BUT THIS COULD HAPPEN. ON MAY 4, A MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED LAM'S WORDS SAYING THAT THE ENTIRE GVN ATTITUDE COULD CHANGE IF THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUE TO VIOLATE THE PARIS AGREEMENT. THE SPOKESMAN ALSO CONFIRMED AN EARLIER STATEMENT BY LAM TO A LOCAL CORRESPONDENT THAT THE GVN HAD INITIALLY REJECTED A CAMBODIAN REQUEST FOR GVN AIR STRIKES IN CAMBODIA, BUT WAS KEEPING THE REQUEST UNDER REVIEW.

PART VI: MR 1

1. LEVEL OF INCIDENTS IN MR 1 REMAINED LOW AT 19, INCLUDING THREE GROUND ATTACKS AND 16 ATTACKS BY FIRE (ABF) OF 407 MORTAR ROUNDS. ALL THREE OF THE GROUND ATTACKS AND NINE OF THE ABF'S OCCURRED IN THE FIRST DIVISION AO WEST OF HUE. CORPS- WIDE, CASUALTIES WERE: FRIENDLY 3 KIA, 16 WIA; ENEMY 27 KIA, 2 CAPTURED. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED A TOTAL OF 1,813 ROUNDS; 1,103 NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 710 SOUTH.

2. I CORPS G-2 REPORTS THAT THE KHE SANH AIRFIELD IS NOW COVERED WITH PSP AND HAS BEEN EXTENDED AN ADDITIONAL 300 METERS TO ABOUT 1800 METERS. ALSO, 59 TRUCKS CARRYING 50 GALLON DRUMS OF PETROLEUM AND FIVE TRUCKS CARRYING SURFACE TO AIR MISSILES (SAM) WERE
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REPORTED SIGHTED ON HIGHWAY 9.

3. AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE AS REPORTED TO AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI INDICATES THE EXTENSION OF SMALLER FEEDER ROADS AND TRAILS LEADING OFF THE NEWLY BUILD TRUNK ROAD IN NORTHWESTERN QUANG NGAI (QUANG TIN BORDER TO DAK DRINH RIVER, BS 2864) AND TRUCKS AND BULL-DOZERS ON THE ROAD EXTENDING EASTWARD FROM SON HA DISTRICT THROUGH TRA BONG DISTRICT. THE WIDENED TRAIL FROM NORTHWEST BINH SON DISTRICT TO JUST WEST OF THE DISTRICT TWON CAN NOW BE SEEN PLAINLY FROM THE AIR OVER NATIONAL ROUTE 1.

4. SENIOR CANDEL OF THE CHU LAI SUB- REGION ICCS INFORMED AREA

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

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CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAL SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI THAT ALTHOUGH ORIGINALLY A SAIGON ICCS TEAM WAS TO OBSERVE THE PLANNED RELEASE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS IN QUANG NGAI ON MAY 2, THE RESPONSIBILITY WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE CHU LAI TEAM, AT THE LAST MINUTE, THE RELEASE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED OFF, BUT CANDEL STRESSED THAT THE ICCS HELICOPTER EMBARGO WOULD HAVE PREVENTED THE ICCS FROM BEING PRESENT IN ANY CASE.

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5. SENIOR CANDEL OF THE CHU LAI SUB- REGION ICCS COMPLAINED AGAIN RECENTLY TO AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI CONCERNING THE INTRANSIGENCE AND OBSTRUCTIVE TACTICS OF THE HUNGDEL IN PARTICULAR. FOR EXAMPLE, THE CANADIANS FEEL THE HUNGARIANS HAVE DELIBERATELY TRIED TO CONFUSE WITNESSES GIVING EVIDENCY DURING INVESTIGATIONS.

6. AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI REPORTS THAT THE ROAD BEING REBUILT BY THE GVN FROM NGHIA HANH TO MINH LONG DISTRICT TOWN HAS NOW BEEN EXTENDED TO WITHIN ABOUT EIGHT KILOMETERS OF ITS DESTINATION. THE VC HAVE COMMITTED AT LEAST ONE LOCAL FORCE BATALLION AND ONE

SAPPER COMPANY TO REINFORCE RESISTANCE AGAINST WHAT THEY CONSIDER A THRUST INTO AN AREA THEY CONTROL. THE GVN RESPONDED BY REINFORCING ONE RF COMPANY AND A RECON COMPANY WITH TWO RANGER BATTALIONS. ARVN RANGERS ARE OCCUPYING HIGH GROUND ACROSS THE SONG VE RIVER OPPOSITE THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE LAST AUTUMN.

PART VII: MR 2

1. MR-2 WAS MOSTLY QUIET DURING LAST 24- HOUR PERIOD WITH ONLY SEVEN INCIDENTS REPORTED AT REGIONAL BRIEFING. THESE WERE USUAL MIX OF ABF' S AND MINING INCIDENTS RESULTING IN CASUALTY TOTALS OF: VC, SIX KIA; RVNAF, TEN WIA. TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED IN A REMOTE AREA OF PLEIKU WHEN THEIR LOGGING TRUCK STRUCK A MINE.

2. REGIONAL BRIEFING DID NOT RPT NOT INCLUDE REPORT OF FIREFIGHT BETWEEN QUANG DUC SECTOR RECON SQUAD AND COMPANY Y- PLUS OF NVA IN TRADITIONALLY COMMUNIST- CONTROLLED EASTERN PART OF DUC XUYEN DISTRICT ON MAY 7. RECON SQUAD WITHDREW UNDER HEAVY FIRE WITH ONE WOUNDED. THIS WAS THE MOST SERIOUS FIGHTING SEEN IN NORMALLY QUIET QUANG DUC SINCE BEGINNING OF CEASE- FIRE. PROVINCE CHIEF BELIEVES AREA OF FIGHTING IS BEING USED BY ENEMY AS MAJOR STAGING AND PRODUCTION BASE AND CITIES RECENT REPORT OF RICE- LADEN TRUCKS SPOTTED NEARBY AS A CORROBORATING EVIDENCE.

3. ICCS: POLOFF PLEIKU REPORTS THAT LAST TWO REMAINING ICCS MEMBERS AT DUC CO (INDONESIAN AND HUNGARIAN) WITHDREW MAY 7, FINALLY CARRYING OUT PLENARY' S APRIL 27 DECISION TO WITHDRAW " TEMPORARILY."

4. POLOFF LAM DONG REPORTS THAT INDODEL BAO LOC IS SERIOUSLY
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HAMPERED IN ITS WORK BY POOR COMMAND OF ENGLISH. BOTH HUNGARIANS AND CANADIANS HAVE COMMENTED ON DIFFICULTIES IN COMMUNICATING IDEAS TO INDONESIANS.

5. GVN CHIEF OF KONTUM TPJMT TOLD ARRO REPRESENTATIVE THERE THAT ON MORNING OF MAY 3 A DELEGATION FROM CENTRAL TPJMC, INCLUDING TWO PRG AND THREE ARVN OFFICERS, FLEW TO TRI DAO AREA NORTH OF KONTUM CITY TO MEET WITH TWO LOCAL PRG OFFICERS. FORTHCOMING PRG RELEASE OF CIVILIAN DETAINEES WAS DISCUSSED; LIST OF SEVEN CIVILIANS TO BE FREED WAS PASSED TO GVN PARTY, AND SITE FOR RELEASE WAS AGREED UPON (AT ZB 155044, A FEW KMS SOUTH OF TRI DAO). NO DATE WAS SET FOR RELEASE AS PRG MEMBERS SAID THEY MUST RETURN TO SAIGON AND PUT TOGETHER INFORMATION REGARDING OTHER DETAINEE RELEASES THROUGHOUT SVN BEFORE TIMETABLE CAN BE MADE.

6. IN PHU YEN, MEANWHILE, SECTOR COMMAND REPORTS VC HAVE YET TO TURN OVER FIVE CIVILIANS SLATED FOR RELEASE SINCE

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PART IX: MR 4

1. MR 4 REPORTED 39 INCIDENTS ON MAY 7, COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS DAY' S 54, INCLUDING FOUR GROUND ATTACKS, 22 ABF' S, 10 HARASSMENTS AND THREE ACTS OF TERRORISM. FRIENDLY LOSSES AMOUNTED TO 16 DEAD, 108 WOUNDED, AND TWO MISSING; THE VC LOST 60 DEAD.

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2. AN RF PLATOON HAS GAINED A MEASURE OF REVENGE AGAINST THE VC

FOR THE MAY 3 ATTACK UPON GIA HOA VILLAGE IN BA XUYEN. THE 486 TH RF BATTALION, OPERATING IN THE SPECIAL INTERPROVINCIAL TACTICAL ZONE ON THE BA ZUYEN- BAC LIEU BORDER, WITHDREW TO ITS BASE IN THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 7, LEAVING BEHIND A PLATOON CONCEALED IN AMBUSH. AT 1700 HOURS A VC UNIT WALKED INTO THE TRAP, SUFFERING EIGHT DEAD AND THE LOSS OF FOUR WEAPONS AND SOME DOCUMENTS. THE DOCUMENTS IDENTIFIED THE UNIT AS PART OF THE VC PHU LOI ONE BATTALION WHICH HAD OVERRUN GIA HOA. NO GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

3. AN AIR AMERICA PORTER FLYING A ROUTINE MISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL WAS STRUCK BY GROUND FIRE AT 0945 MAY 7. THE PLANE WAS FLYING FROM BAC LIEU TO CAN THO AT APPROXIMATELY 4500 FEET WHEN THE PILOT DROVE TO 2000 FEET TO GET BELOW CLOUDS. AT APPROXIMATELY 25 KMS ENE OF SOC TRANG (WR 8368) FOUR ROUNDS OF "30 CALIBER OR 7.65 MM" STRUCK THE AIRCRAFT. THE PILOT WAS ALONE ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT AND WAS UNINJURED. HE TOOK EVASIVE ACTION AND PROCEEDED TO CAN THO WHERE HE LANDED SAFELY.

4. THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS HAVE CONDUCTED THEIR FIRST INDEPENDENT OBSERVATION. UNLIKE THE PRACTICE ADOPTED BY CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS, THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS MADE NO ATTEMPT TO INVITE THEIR COLLEAGUES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FINDINGS. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN TRI TON TEAMS OBSERVED ARVN SHELLING OF NVA POSITIONS MAY 1 ON CO TO MOUNTAIN IN CHAU DOC PROVINCE. THE FOLLOWING DAY THEY FILED A CEASE- FIRE VIOLATION CHARGE WITH REGION VII HEADQUARTERS, WHICH WITHOUT CONSULTING THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS, DISPATCHED THE CHARGE TO SAIGON. THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS ARE FURIOUS AND ARE DRAFTING A STRONG REBUTTAL IN WHICH THEY WILL NOTE THAT THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REPORT WAS NEVER DISCUSSED AT TEAM OR REGIONAL LEVEL. CITING FULL FACTS AND FIGURES, SOME OF WHICH THE CONSULATE GENERAL PROVIDED, THEY WILL POINT OUT ARVN SHELLING OF NVA POSITIONS ON CO TO MOUNTAIN WAS DEFENSIVE. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REPORT DOES ADMIT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE CEASE- FIRE, THE PRESENCE OF " PRG POSITIONS" ON CO TO; THE CANADIANS HOPE TO USE THIS ADMISSION IN THE EVENT OF FURTHER INCIDENTS IN THE AREA. REGION VII CANDEL BELIEVES THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS HAVE ADOPTED THIS NEW TACTIC IN RESPONSE TO CRITICISM FROM THEIR SAIGON LEADERS FOR PERMITTING THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS TO FILE BI- NATIONAL REPORTS AFTER THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS BOYCOTTED THE INVESTIGATIONS.

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5. COLONEL TRAN VAN THI, VINH LONG PROVINCE CHIEF, DENIES THAT HE USED OPPRESSIVE MEASURES IN FORCING VILLAGERS TO MOVE TO GVN RESETTLEMENT AREAS. A VILLAGE CHIEF HAD CHARGED THAT THI' S TROOPS HAD BURNED THE HOMES AND RICE OF VILLAGERS RELUCTANT TO MOVE (CAN THO 0277). THI CLAIMED ON MAY 3 THAT ONLY A FEW TEMPORARY THATCH SHACKS WERE BURNED. ANYWAY, HE SAID, HE HAS COMPLETED THE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM IN HIS PROVINCE AND WILL INITIATE NEW PROGRAMS TO BRING SECURITY TO THE PEOPLE IN THEIR VILLAGES.

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OF US/ GVN VIOLATIONS.

PART II TPJMC: FOUR DETAINEES OF 200 RELEASED AT QUANG
TRI ON MAY 7 REFUSE TO GO.

PART III FPJMT/ MIA: DRV FORMALLY ANNOUNCES FPJMT
VISIT TO NVN; CRASH SITE INSPECTION IS LONG AN FRUITLESS.

PART IV CEASE- FIRE VIOLATION: COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS NOW AT 13,286.

PART V CAMBODIAN WAR: FONMIN LAM SAY GVN INTERVENTION
IN CAMBODIA POSSIBLE IF COMMUNIST AGGRESSION CONTINUES.

PART VI MR 1: COMMUNIST BUILD- UP IN WESTERN MOUNTAINS
CONTINUES AS FIGHTING REMAINS LOW; ICCS CHU LAI
TEAM UNABLE TO SUPERVISE SCHEDULED CIVILIAN
PRISONER RELEASE IN QUANG NGAI ON MAY 2 CAUSING
CANCELLATION.

PART VII MR 2: FIGHTING IN QUANG DUC; ICCS WITHDRAWAL FROM
DUC CO COMPLETED; SCHEDULED CIVILIAN PRISONER
RELEASES HELD UP.

PART VIII MR 3: INCIDENTS REMAIN LOW; ABF' S ON TONG LE
CHAN CONTINUE.

PART IX MR 4: RF STRIKES BACK AT VC FORCES IN BA XUYEN;
AIR AMERICA PORTER FIRED UPON; POLDEL/ HUNGDEL
" INDEPENDENT OBSERVATION" INFURIATES CANDEL/ INDODEL.

PART I: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONTROL AND SUPERVISION (ICCS)

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1. AS OF MAY 4 PLENARY, THE ICCS SECRETARIAT STAFF CAN NOW PREPARE VERBATIM MINUTES TO BE CIRCULATED AMONG CHIP DELS WITHIN 48 HOURS. IF NO OBJECTIONS OR ADDITIONS ARE RECEIVED WITHIN 96 HOURS, THE MINUTES STAND APPROVED. ANY OBJECTIONS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FOLLOWING PLENARY. ICCS CHAIRMAN'S DELEGATION CONTINUES TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A BRIEF RECORD OF DECISION WHICH IS APPROVED AT THE START OF EACH PLENARY. AT PREVIOUS SESSIONS, IN ABSENCE OF VERBATIM MINUTES, THE RECORDS OF DECISION BECAME INCREASINGLY LENGTHY INVOLVING CONSIDERABLE CONTROVERSY AND DISCUSSION BEFORE BEING PASSED. THE PROCESS IS NOW MOVING AT A FASTER PACE.

2. POLDEL GEN. RYBA'S PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING ICCS WITHDRAWAL FROM DUC CO WAS THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS AT MAY 7 PLENARY. THERE WAS FURTHER DISCUSSION OF PRG'S LETTER ON THE SUBJECT (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN SAIGON 7962). ACCORDING TO LETTER, PRGT

REGRET

TED TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL " BECAUSE OF WEATHER AND CLIMATIC CONDITIONS" AND PROMISED TO IMPORVE LIVING CONDITIONS AT DUC CO WHICH PROMPTED CANDEL COMMENT WHETHER PRG COULD CONTROL THE WEATHER. HUNGDEL THEN MADE STATEMENT FOR RECORD THAT DUC CO WITHDRAWAL WAS MADE ON MEDICAL GROUNDS ONLY. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF FURTHER ICCS WITHDRAWALS FROM BEN HET OR AN LOC.

3. THERE FOLLOWED A REPORT ON POLDEL DISCUSSIONS IN BEHALF OF ICCS WITH PRG CONCERNING WIDTH OF AIR CORRIDORS AND ICCS PRESENCE AT PRISONER RELEASE SITES. POLDEL STATED THAT PRG WOULD AGREE TO COMPROMISE OF 6 KM WIDE AIR CORRIDORS. AS PREDICTED, INDO / CANDEL REFUSED COMPROMISE. POLDEL FURTHER REPORTED THAT PRG REPS HAD SAID THAT ICCS INABILITY TO SUPERVISE PRISONER EXCHANGES WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT MEETING OF TPJMC. IT WAS AGREEDRLHAT ICCS WOULD WRITE A LETTER TO TPJMC INFORMING THAT BODY OF THE FRUITLESS DISCUSSIONS WITH PRG ON WIDTH OF AIR CORRIDORS AND STATING THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER. CANDEL WANTED TO PREPARE LETTER CCONDEMNING THE PRG FOR FAILURE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE AIR CORRIDORS, BUT THIS WAS A NON- STARTER AMONG POLDEL/ HUNGDEL REPS.

4. SEVEN MORE INVESTIGATION REPORTS WERE ROUTINELY HANDLED, FOUR FROM REGION VII, TWO FROM REGION IV, ONE FROM REGION II. ONE
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REPORT UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE ICCS TEAM COULD NOT CONCLUDE A CEASEFIRE VIOLATION HAD OCCURRED. IN THE REMAINING SIX REPORTS, CANDEL/ INDODEL FOUND PRG GUILTY OF TRUCE

VIOLATION WITH DIFFERING VIEWS OF HUNGDEL/ POLDEL DENYING
EVIDENCE, REFUTTING CANDEL/ INDODEL CLAIMS OR IN ONE CASE
HUNGDEL CONCLUDING THAT GVN FORCES HA
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NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20 RSR-01

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O R 081130 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1358
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
CINCPAC
CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

PART II: TPJMC

1. CHIEFS MET TODAY IN A GENERALLY UNPRODUCTIVE SESSION. BOTH
SIDES REITERATED PREVIOUS POSITIONS ON CONTACTS BETWEEN UNIT COM-
MANDERS, POWS AND CIVILIAN DETAINEES. GVN DEL HAS SENT A LET-
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TER TO THE ICCS CONTAINING A PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR ICCS PARTICIPATION IN CIVILIAN DETAINEE RELEASES SLATED FOR THIS WEEKEND IN PRG-CONTROLLED TERRITORY. ACCORDING TO GVN DEL SOURCE, GVN WILL NOT RPT NOT GO AHEAD WITH RECEPTION OF RELEASES IN PRG TERRITORY WITHOUT ICCS PARTICIPATION.

2. 200 GVN- HELD CIVILIAN DETAINEES WERE TO BE RELEASED THIS AFTERNOON AT THACH HAN RIVER SITE. ACCORDING TO REPORT RECEIVED TODAY, 196 CIVILIANS WERE RETURNED IN YESTERDAY'S RELEASE, WITH FOUR DETAINEES REFUSING RETURN AND ELECTING HOI CHANH STATUS.

PART III FPJMT/ MIA

1. AT MAY 8 SESSION, DRV DELEGATION FORMALLY ANNOUNCED THAT VISIT OF FPJMT ELEMENT TO GRAVES OF US DIC IN NVN WILL TAKE PLACE ON MAY 11. PERIOD OF VISIT TO GRAVES WILL LAST FIVE HOURS. EACH FPJMT DELEGATION WILL BE LIMITED TO FIVE DELEGATES. (US DEL IS ATTEMPTING TO SECURE DRV PERMISSION TO SEND A TOTAL OF 8 DELEGATES.) DRV DELEGATION STRESSED THAT LOCAL OFFICIALS WOULD PROVIDE ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION REGARDING DIC' S.

2. NEITHER DRV OR PRG DELEGATION RAISED MATTER OF MAY 7-8 CRASH SITE INVESTIGATION IN LONG AN PROVINCE. THE INVESTIGATION WAS COMPLETED LATE AFTERNOON MAY 8. ALTHOUGH SOME PERSONAL POSSESSIONS WERE FOUND, NO REMAINS WERE LOCATED. THE ONLY INCIDENT WHICH MARKED THE CRASH SITE INVESTIGATION WAS A BOOBY TRAP EXPLOSION WHICH KILLED ONE AND SERIOUSLY WOUNDED ANOTHER PF SOLDIER DURING SWEEP OF CRASH SITE AREA ON SATURDAY.

3. DRV DEL REQUESTED THAT NEXT MEETING BE POSTPONED UNTIL SATURDAY, MAY 12, AS THEY WOULD BE TOO BUSY MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANOI VISIT TO MEET ON THURSDAY, MAY 10.

4. US DEL SENT LIST OF 1444 US AND THIRD COUNTRY MIA' S TO DRV AND PRG DELEGATIONS ON AFTERNOON OF MAY 8 REQUESTING INFORMATION ON CURRENT STATUS.

PART IV: CEASE- FIRE VIOLATIONS

THE OFFICIAL VIETNAM PRESS LIST OF COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS FROM THE DATE OF THE CEASE- FIRE TO 0600 MAY 8 REACHED 13,286. THESE VIOLATIONS RESULTED IN 19,095 COMMUNIST TROOPS KILLED AND 212 CAPTURED, WHILE RVNAF CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 4,712 KILLED, 23,105 WOUNDED AND 1,231 MISSING. IN ADDITION, 770 CIVILIANS WERE KILLED, 2,169 WOUNDED AND 1,146 ABDUCTED.

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PART V: CAMBODIAN WAR

FOREIGN MINISTER LAM SPEAKS ON CAMBODIAN FIGHTING

THE LOCAL PRESS HAS GIVEN FULL COVERAGE TO AN INTERVIEW BY FOREIGN MINISTER LAM WITH AN ITALIAN CORRESPONDENT ON MAY 3 IN WHICH HE SAID THE GVN WOULD CONSIDER INTERVENING IN CAMBODIA IF THE SITUATION IN THAT COUNTRY BECAME WORSE AS A RESULT OF CONTINUED COMMUNIST AGGRESSION. LAM SAID THAT A DEADLINE OF 15 DAYS AFTER SIGNATURE OF PARIS AGREEMENT (JANUARY 27) HAD BEEN TACITLY AGREED UPON FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM CAMBODIA AND THAT THIS HAD BEEN DISREGARDED BY THE DRV. GVN FORCES HAVE NOT YET BEEN AUTHORIZED TO CROSS THE BORDER INTO CAMBODIA, A DECISION WHICH WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM PRESIDENT THIEU, BUT THIS COULD HAPPEN. ON MAY 4, A MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED LAM'S WORDS SAYING THAT THE ENTIRE GVN ATTITUDE COULD CHANGE IF THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUE TO VIOLATE THE PARIS AGREEMENT. THE SPOKESMAN ALSO CONFIRMED AN EARLIER STATEMENT BY LAM TO A LOCAL CORRESPONDENT THAT THE GVN HAD INITIALLY REJECTED A CAMBODIAN REQUEST FOR GVN AIR STRIKES IN CAMBODIA, BUT WAS KEEPING THE REQUEST UNDER REVIEW.

PART VI: MR 1

1. LEVEL OF INCIDENTS IN MR 1 REMAINED LOW AT 19, INCLUDING THREE GROUND ATTACKS AND 16 ATTACKS BY FIRE (ABF) OF 407 MORTAR ROUNDS. ALL THREE OF THE GROUND ATTACKS AND NINE OF THE ABF'S OCCURRED IN THE FIRST DIVISION AO WEST OF HUE. CORPS- WIDE, CASUALTIES WERE: FRIENDLY 3 KIA, 16 WIA; ENEMY 27 KIA, 2 CAPTURED. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED A TOTAL OF 1,813 ROUNDS; 1,103 NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 710 SOUTH.

2. I CORPS G-2 REPORTS THAT THE KHE SANH AIRFIELD IS NOW COVERED WITH PSP AND HAS BEEN EXTENDED AN ADDITIONAL 300 METERS TO ABOUT 1800 METERS. ALSO, 59 TRUCKS CARRYING 50 GALLON DRUMS OF PETROLEUM AND FIVE TRUCKS CARRYING SURFACE TO AIR MISSILES (SAM) WERE
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REPORTED SIGHTED ON HIGHWAY 9.

3. AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE AS REPORTED TO AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI INDICATES THE EXTENSION OF SMALLER FEEDER ROADS AND TRAILS LEADING OFF THE NEWLY BUILD TRUNK ROAD IN NORTHWESTERN QUANG NGAI (QUANG TIN BORDER TO DAK DRINH RIVER, BS 2864) AND TRUCKS AND BULLDOZERS ON THE ROAD EXTENDING EASTWARD FROM SON HA DISTRICT THROUGH TRA BONG DISTRICT. THE WIDENED TRAIL FROM NORTHWEST BINH SON DISTRICT TO JUST WEST OF THE DISTRICT TWON CAN NOW BE SEEN PLAINLY FROM THE AIR OVER NATIONAL ROUTE 1.

4. SENIOR CANDEL OF THE CHU LAI SUB- REGION ICCS INFORMED AREA

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DPW-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20 RSR-01

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O R 081130 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1359
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
CINCPAC
CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAL SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI THAT ALTHOUGH ORIGINALLY A SAIGON ICCS TEAM WAS TO OBSERVE THE PLANNED RELEASE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS IN QUANG NGAI ON MAY 2, THE RESPONSIBILITY WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE CHU LAI TEAM, AT THE LAST MINUTE, THE RELEASE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED OFF, BUT CANDEL STRESSED THAT THE ICCS HELICOPTER EMBARGO WOULD HAVE PREVENTED THE ICCS FROM BEING PRESENT IN ANY CASE.

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5. SENIOR CANDEL OF THE CHU LAI SUB- REGION ICCS COMPLAINED AGAIN RECENTLY TO AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI CONCERNING THE INTRANSIGENCE AND OBSTRUCTIVE TACTICS OF THE HUNGDEL IN PARTICULAR. FOR EXAMPLE, THE CANADIANS FEEL THE HUNGARIANS HAVE DELIBERATELY TRIED TO CONFUSE WITNESSES GIVING EVIDENCY DURING INVESTIGATIONS.

6. AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI REPORTS THAT THE ROAD BEING REBUILT BY THE GVN FROM NGHIA HANH TO MINH LONG DISTRICT TOWN HAS NOW BEEN EXTENDED TO WITHIN ABOUT EIGHT KILOMETERS OF ITS DESTINATION. THE VC HAVE COMMITTED AT LEAST ONE LOCAL FORCE BATALLION AND ONE SAPPER COMPANY TO REINFORCE RESISTANCE AGAINST WHAT THEY CONSIDER A THRUST INTO AN AREA THEY CONTROL. THE GVN RESPONDED BY REINFORCING ONE RF COMPANY AND A RECON COMPANY WITH TWO RANGER BATTALIONS. ARVN RANGERS ARE OCCUPYING HIGH GROUND ACROSS THE SONG VE RIVER OPPOSITE THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE LAST AUTUMN.

PART VII: MR 2

1. MR-2 WAS MOSTLY QUIET DURING LAST 24- HOUR PERIOD WITH ONLY SEVEN INCIDENTS REPORTED AT REGIONAL BRIEFING. THESE WERE USUAL MIX OF ABF' S AND MINING INCIDNETS RESULTING IN CASUALTY TOTALS OF: VC, SIX KIA; RVNAF, TEN WIA. TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED IN A REMOTE AREA OF PLEIKU WHEN THEIR LOGGING TRUCK STRUCK A MINE.

2. REGIONAL BRIEFING DID NOT RPT NOT INCLUDE REPORT OF FIREFIGHT BETWEEN QUANG DUC SECTOR RECON SQUAD AND COMPAN Y- PLUS OF NVA IN TRADITIONALLY COMMUNIST- CONTROLLED EASTERN PART OF DUC XUYEN DISTRICT ON MAY 7. RECON SQUAD WITHDREW UNDER HEAVY FIRE WITH ONE WOUNDED. THIS WAS THE MOST SERIOUS FIGHTING SEEN IN NORMALLY QUIET QUANG DUC SINCE BEGINNING OF CEASE- FIRE. PROVINCE CHIEF BELIEVES AREA OF FIGHTING IS BEING USED BY ENEMY AS MAJOR STAGING AND PRODUCTION BASE AND CITIES RECENT REPORT OF RICE- LADEN TRUCKS SPOTTED NEARBY AS A CORROBORATING EVIDENCE.

3. ICCS: POLOFF PLEIKU REPORTS THAT LAST TWO REMAINING ICCS MEMBERS AT DUC CO (INDONESIAN AND HUNGARIAN) WITHDREW MAY 7, FINALLY CARRYING OUT PLENARY' S APRIL 27 DECISION TO WITHDRAW " TEMPORARILY."

4. POLOFF LAM DONG REPORTS THAT INDODEL BAO LOC IS SERIOUSLY
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HAMPERED IN ITS WORK BY POOR COMMAND OF ENGLISH. BOTH HUNGARIANS AND CANADIANS HAVE COMMENTED ON DIFFICULTIES IN COMMUNICATING IDEAS TO INDONESIANS.

5. GVN CHIEF OF KONTUM TPJMT TOLD ARRO REPRESENTATIVE THERE THAT ON MORNING OF MAY 3 A DELEGATION FROM CENTRAL TPJMC, INCLUDING TWO PRG AND THREE ARVN OFFICERS, FLEW TO TRI DAO AREA

NORTH OF KONTUM CITY TO MEET WITH TWO LOCAL PRG OFFICERS. FORTH-COMING PRG RELEASE OF CIVILIAN DETAINEES WAS DISCUSSED; LIST OF SEVEN CIVILIANS TO BE FREED WAS PASSED TO GVN PARTY, AND SITE FOR RELEASE WAS AGREED UPON (AT ZB 155044, A FEW KMS SOUTH OF TRI DAO). NO DATE WAS SET FOR RELEASE AS PRG MEMBERS SAID THEY MUST RETURN TO SAIGON AND PUT TOGETHER INFORMATION REGARDING OTHER DETAINEE RELEASES THROUGHOUT SVN BEFORE TIMETABLE CAN BE MADE.

6. IN PHU YEN, MEANWHILE, SECTOR COMMAND REPORTS VC HAVE YET TO TURN OVER FIVE CIVILIANS SLATED FOR RELEASE SINCE
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DPW-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20 RSR-01

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O R 081130 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1360
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL SAN THO
CINCPAC
CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

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PART IX: MR 4

1. MR 4 REPORTED 39 INCIDENTS ON MAY 7, COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS DAY'S 54, INCLUDING FOUR GROUND ATTACKS, 22 ABF'S, 10 HARASSMENTS AND THREE ACTS OF TERRORISM. FRIENDLY LOSSES AMOUNTED TO 16 DEAD, 108 WOUNDED, AND TWO MISSING; THE VC LOST 60 DEAD.

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2. AN RF PLATOON HAS GAINED A MEASURE OF REVENGE AGAINST THE VC FOR THE MAY 3 ATTACK UPON GIA HOA VILLAGE IN BA XUYEN. THE 486 TH RF BATTALION, OPERATING IN THE SPECIAL INTERPROVINCIAL TACTICAL ZONE ON THE BA ZUYEN- BAC LIEU BORDER, WITHDREW TO ITS BASE IN THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 7, LEAVING BEHIND A PLATOON CONCEALED IN AMBUSH. AT 1700 HOURS A VC UNIT WALKED INTO THE TRAP, SUFFERING EIGHT DEAD AND THE LOSS OF FOUR WEAPONS AND SOME DOCUMENTS. THE DOCUMENTS IDENTIFIED THE UNIT AS PART OF THE VC PHU LOI ONE BATTALION WHICH HAD OVERRUN GIA HOA. NO GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

3. AN AIR AMERICA PORTER FLYING A ROUTINE MISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL WAS STRUCK BY GROUND FIRE AT 0945 MAY 7. THE PLANE WAS FLYING FROM BAC LIEU TO CAN THO AT APPROXIMATELY 4500 FEET WHEN THE PILOT DROVE TO 2000 FEET TO GET BELOW CLOUDS. AT APPROXIMATELY 25 KMS ENE OF SOC TRANG (WR 8368) FOUR ROUNDS OF "30 CALIBER OR 7.65 MM" STRUCK THE AIRCRAFT. THE PILOT WAS ALONE ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT AND WAS UNINJURED. HE TOOK EVASIVE ACTION AND PROCEEDED TO CAN THO WHERE HE LANDED SAFELY.

4. THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS HAVE CONDUCTED THEIR FIRST INDEPENDENT OBSERVATION. UNLIKE THE PRACTICE ADOPTED BY CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS, THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS MADE NO ATTEMPT TO INVITE THEIR COLLEAGUES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FINDINGS. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN TRI TON TEAMS OBSERVED ARVN SHELLING OF NVA POSITIONS MAY 1 ON CO TO MOUNTAIN IN CHAU DOC PROVINCE. THE FOLLOWING DAY THEY FILED A CEASE- FIRE VIOLATION CHARGE WITH REGION VII HEADQUARTERS, WHICH WITHOUT CONSULTING THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS, DISPATCHED THE CHARGE TO SAIGON. THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS ARE FURIOUS AND ARE DRAFTING A STRONG REBUTTAL IN WHICH THEY WILL NOTE THAT THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REPORT WAS NEVER DISCUSSED AT TEAM OR REGIONAL LEVEL. CITING FULL FACTS AND FIGURES, SOME OF WHICH THE CONSULATE GENERAL PROVIDED, THEY WILL POINT OUT ARVN SHELLING OF NVA POSITIONS ON CO TO MOUNTAIN WAS DEFENSIVE. THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REPORT DOES ADMIT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE CEASE- FIRE, THE PRESENCE OF " PRG POSITIONS" ON CO TO; THE CANADIANS HOPE TO USE THIS ADMISSION IN THE EVENT OF FURTHER INCIDENTS IN THE AREA. REGION VII CANDEL BELIEVES THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS HAVE ADOPTED THIS NEW TACTIC IN RESPONSE TO CRITICISM FROM THEIR SAIGON LEADERS FOR PERMITTING THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS TO FILE BI- NATIONAL REPORTS AFTER THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS BOYCOTTED THE INVESTIGATIONS.

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5. COLONEL TRAN VAN THI, VINH LONG PROVINCE CHIEF, DENIES THAT HE USED OPPRESSIVE MEASURES IN FORCING VILLAGERS TO MOVE TO GVN RESETTLEMENT AREAS. A VILLAGE CHIEF HAD CHARGED THAT THI' S TROOPS HAD BURNED THE HOMES AND RICE OF VILLAGERS RELUCTANT TO MOVE (CAN THO 0277). THI CLAIMED ON MAY 3 THAT ONLY A FEW TEMPORARY THATCH SHACKS WERE BURNT. ANYWAY, HE SAID, HE HAS COMPLETED THE RE- SETTLEMENT PROGRAM IN HIS PROVINCE AND WILL INITIATE NEW PROGRAMS TO BRING SECURITY TO THE PEOPLE IN THEIR VILLAGES.

WHITEHOUSE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
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